

09/807904

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19 APR 2001

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

**WATANABE t al.**

Atty. Ref.: 330-235

Serial No. **Unknown**

Group:

National Phase of: **PCT/JP99/05651**International Filing Date: **14 October 1999**Filed: **April 19, 2001**

Examiner:

For: **ORGANIC-INORGANIC COMPOSITE GRADED  
MATERIAL, PROCESS FOR THE PRODUCTION  
THEREOF AND ITS USE**

\* \* \* \* \*

**April 19, 2001**Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Prior to calculation of the filing fee and in order to place the above identified application in better condition for examination, please amend the claims as follows:

**IN THE CLAIMS**

Please substitute the following amended claims for corresponding claims previously presented. A copy of the amended claims showing current revisions is attached.

3. (Amended) The organic-inorganic composite graded material of claim 1, wherein the metallic compound is a metal-oxide-containing compound.

4. (Amended) The organic-inorganic composite graded material of claim 1, wherein the metallic compound is a metal-nitride-containing compound in which the metallic compound is bonded to the organic polymer compound through a metal-oxide-containing compound.

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